

In the Claims

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Please cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 15-44.

1-14. Cancelled.

15. (New) A method for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising the steps of:

storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and

applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal, wherein the step of determining a gain characteristic comprises the step of interpolating between two gain characteristics to determine a gain characteristic to apply to the input signal.

16. (New) A method according to claim 15 in which the stored gain characteristics comprise at least one impulse response and the steps of applying a gain characteristic to the input signal comprises applying a stored impulse response to the input signal.

17. (New) A method according to claim 15 in which the gain characteristic to be applied to an input signal is determined in response to a manual input.

18. (New) A method according to claim 16 in which an interpolation between two or more impulse responses is made and applied to the input signal.

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19. (New) A method according to claim 17 in which a manual input is used to select the impulse responses to be applied.

20. (New) A method according to claim 15 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

21. (New) Apparatus for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising:
means for storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

means for repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;
means for determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and
means for applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal when the amplitude of the input signal falls between the two gain characteristics including means for interpolating between these two gain characteristics to produce a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal.

22. (New) A method according to claim 21 in which the stored gain characteristics comprise at least one impulse response, and the means for applying a gain characteristic comprises means for applying a stored impulse response to the input signal.

23. (New) A method according to claim 21 including a manual input for a gain characteristic to be applied to an input signal.

24. (New) Apparatus according to claim 22 includes means for interpolating between two or more impulse responses before applying the interpolated response to the input signal.

25. (New) Apparatus according to claim 23 including a manual input to select the impulse response to be applied.

26. (New) Apparatus according to claim 21 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

27. (New) A method for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising the steps of:

storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and

applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal wherein the stored gain characteristics comprise at least one impulse response and the step of applying a gain characteristic to the input signal comprises applying a stored impulse response to the input signal.

28. (New) A method according to claim 23 in which the gain characteristic to be applied to an input signal is determined in response to a manual input.

29. (New) A method according to claim 27 in which an interpolation between two or more impulse responses is made and applied to the input signal.

30. (New) A method according to claim 29 in which a manual input is used to select the impulse responses to be applied.

31. (New) A method according to claim 27 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

32. (New) Apparatus for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising:
means for storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

means for repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

means for determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and means for applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal wherein the means for storing gain characteristics comprises one impulse response, and means for applying a stored impulse response to the input signal.

33. (New) A method according to claim 32 including a manual input for a gain characteristic to be applied to an input signal.

34. (New) Apparatus according to claim 32 including means for interpolating between two or more impulse responses before applying the interpolated response to the input signal.

35. (New) Apparatus according to claim 34 including a manual input to select the impulse response to be applied.

36. (New) Apparatus according to claim 32 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

37. (New) A method for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising the steps of:

storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal in response to a manual input; and

applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal.

38. (New) A method according to claim 37 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

39. (New) Apparatus for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising:

means for storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

means for repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

means for determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal in response to a manual input; and

means for applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal.

40. (New) Apparatus according to claim 39 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

41. (New) A method for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising the steps of:

storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and

applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal wherein the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

42. (New) Apparatus of applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising:

means for storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;

means for repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

means for determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and

means for applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal wherein the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

43. (New) A method for applying an impulse response to an audio signal comprising the steps of:

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storing data representing a plurality of impulse responses relating to a plurality of characteristics of a reference device;

using a manual input to select an impulse response to be applied to an input signal; and applying the impulse response to the input signal.

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44. (New) Apparatus for applying an impulse response to an audio signal comprising the steps of:

means for storing data representing a plurality of characteristics of a reference device; characteristics of a reference device;

a manual input to select an impulse response to be applied to an input signal; and means for applying the impulse response to the input signal.
